**Telecom Network Through Microwave Media And Optical Fibre Cafrk-**

† 971. SHRI KRIPAL PARMAR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether all the capitals/cities and headquarters of Union Territories in the country have been connected with telecom network through microwave media and optical fibre cables;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the names of the *places* which have not beta yei connected with telecom network; and

(d) the reasons therefore and by when the above places would bo connected with telecom network?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAP AN SIKDAR): (a) All the State *Capitals* and all the Union Territory Headquarters except Perth!air (Andaman and Nicobar) and Kavaratti (Lakshdweep) have-microwave and/or optical fibre cable connectivity. A &.tailed Statement *is* enclosed, *(See* below)

(b) and (c) Provision of Microwave to the islands is technical?y not feasible and *optical* fibre (OF) media is not economically viable. OF media has, however, been planned for Srinagar, Imphai, Aizav/al, **Kohima** and Agartala and the work is planned to be completed progressively by March, 2002.

(d) Provisions of Microwave to the islands is technically not feasible and Optical Fibre (OF) media is not economically viable. OF media has, however, been planned for Srinagar, ImphaS, Aizawal, Kohima and Agartala and the work is planned to be completed progressively by March, 2002.

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† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

**Statement**

*The Status of telecom. Connectivity at State Capitals and Union Territory headquarters*

| s. No | State | Capital | Available Connectivity |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1. | Andhra Pradesh | Hyderabad | MW* and OFC** |
| 2. | Arunachal Pradesh | Itanagar | -do- |
| 3. | Assam | Dispur | -do- |
| 4. | Bihar | Patna | -do- |
| 5. | Goa | Panaji | -do- |
| 6. | Gujarat | Gandhinagar | -do- |
| 7. | Haryana | Chandhigarh | -do- |
| 8. | Himachal Pradesh | Shimla | -do- |
| 9. | Jammu and Kashmir | Srmagar | MW |
| 10. | Karnataka | Bangalore | MW and OFC |
| 11. | Kerala | Tiruvanantpuram | -do- |
| 12. | Madhya Pradesh | Bhopal | -do- |
| 13. | Maharashtra | Mumbai | -do- |
| 14. | Manipur | Imphal | MW |
| 15. | Meghalya | Shillong | MW and OFC |
| 16. | Mizoram | Aizawal | MW |
| 17. | Nagaland | Kohima | -do- |
| 18. | Orissa | Bhubaneshwar | MW and OFC |
| 19. | Punjab | Chandigarh | -do- |
| 20. | Rajasthan | Jaipur | -do- |
| 21. | Sikkim | Gangtok | MW |
| 22. | Tamil Nadu | Chennai | MW and OFC |
| 23. | Tripura | Agartala | MW |
| 24. | U.P. | Lucknow | MW and OFC |
| 25. | West Bengal | Calcutta | -do- |
| UNION TERRITORIES | | | |
| 1. | Andaman and Nicobar | Portblair | SAT*** |
| 2. | Chandigarh | Chandigarh | MW and OFC |

| s. No. | State | Capital | Available Connectivity |
|---|---|---|---|
| 3. | Dadra and Nagar Haveli | Silvasa | MW and OFC |
| 4. | Daman and Diu | Daman | MW and OFC |
| 5. | Delhi | Delhi | MW and OFC |
| 6. | Lakshadweep | Kavaratti | SAT |
| 7. | Pondicherry | Pondicherry | OFC |

MW*-Microwavc, OFC**…Optical Fibre Cable, SAT***….Satellite

**Modernisation of Postal Network**

972. SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA. Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have formulated a comprehensive action plan for expansion, upgradation, strengthening and modernization of postal network in the country during the current year and Ninth *Plan;*

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith physical and financial targets; State-wise in general and Maharashtra in particular;

(c) the new schemes proposed for rendering better and improved services to the people in rural and urban areas particularly in Maharashtra; and

(d) the details thereof scheme-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICAITONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Expansion—As per plan projection it is proposed to open 500 Extra Departmental Branch Post Offices (EDBOs), 50 departmental Sub Post Offices (DSOs) and 1000 Panchayat Sanchar Sewa Kendras (PSSKs) in current Plan year of the 9th five Year Plan. It is also proposed *to* open 500 EDBOs, 50 DSOs and 1000 PSSKs in the annual plan 2001-2002 of the Ninth Five-Year Plan. A target of 60 Extra Departmental Branch Post Offices, 2 departmental Sub Post Offices and 85 Panchayat Sanchar *Sewn* Kendras have been fixed for the state of Maharashtra.

Upgradation—There arc well formulated specific norms for